Atty Docket No.: 246871US3DIV Inventor: Hideyuki NOJIRI Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13-19 are presently pending in this application, Claims 6, 9 and 12 having been canceled, Claims 3, 4, 5 and 7 having been amended, and Claims 13-19 having been newly added by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

The amendments and additions in the claims are believed to find clear support in the specification, claims and drawings, and thus no new matter is believed to be added.

Examination on the merits of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13-19, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/03)

•

GJM/AY:fm I:\ATTY\AKY\24s\246871DI\\PREAME.DOC Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599

Akihiro Yamazaki

Registration No. 46,155